Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Minutes — September 28, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by HRCVO President Dan Doyle.

Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of Officers and Directors: Present were President Dan Doyle, Immediate Past President Robert Randall, Vice President Jonathan Murdoch, Secretary Roger Durity, Chaplain Alice Cooper and Board of Directors (BOD), Ron O'Donnell. Excused were Treasurer Mike Maliniak, BOD Kathy Goodall, and Michael Bukowski.

Guest Speaker:
Joe Mahachek, chairman for Virginia Beach Wreaths Across America, provided an update on the event at Princess Anne Memorial Park Cemetery on December 19th at 9 a.m. Last year, 871 volunteers placed 672 wreaths. This year's goal has increased to 1,000 wreaths, with the aim of placing one at the grave of each of the approximately 1,200 veterans buried there.

Dave and Jeanie Huffman of Mission: POW/MIA briefed attendees on National POW Recognition Day.

- The observance takes place on the third Friday in September at the Pentagon and includes a flyover. The HRCVO was represented.
- HRCVO President Dan Doyle and Secretary Roger Durity laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
- A reception at the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency was also attended.
- Contact was established with the Laos Ambassador; plans call for sending four agents to Laos in the coming year.

President's Report and Opening Remarks

- Presenting the wreath was a great honor of a lifetime and others were encouraged to attend or participate in the ceremony. Thanks were given to Gene and Dave for the opportunity.
- The Flame of Hope wreath-laying ceremony was held September 22nd at 9:00 a.m. Attendance was lower than in previous years, but the venue was in excellent condition. Greater VSO participation is encouraged at future ceremonies.
- Jonathan Murdoch Scouting America presented a new Scouting patch commemorating America's 250th anniversary features all six military branches and the American flag. The patch costs approximately $6, and a photo is available on the HRCVO website.
- City of Virginia Beach blog promotes the Tidewater Veteran Day parade, ceremony, and luncheon.
- The 17th Annual Honor and Remember Gold Star Gala will be held on December 6th. Dan commended George Lutz for his outstanding service and encouraged VSOs to consider sponsorship or buy tickets.
- Honor Flight Mission #11 (Old Dominion):
    - Departure October 17 from American Legion Post, Newport News (4:45 AM).

    - Open to Vietnam-era and earlier veterans; D.C. memorial tours and Arlington; meals provided; wheelchairs and escorts available. Contact Dan for information.
- The Virginia Beach Mayor's Committee for Veterans (MCV) requested a VSO representative to deliver an engaging presentation at the Republican Women's Convention meeting.
- A Veterans Benefits Resource Fair will be held on October 23 at the Chesapeake Conference Center.
- USAA provided $5,000 to sponsor luncheon attendance for Veterans, Gold Star families, VIPs, and Grand Marshals.

Review and Acceptance of the Minutes from Previous Meeting:

August 24th, 2026, meeting minutes were posted to the website for review. Motion to approve: John Cooper; 2nd: Robert Randall. The minutes were unanimously approved as posted.

Treasurer's Report:

- None

POA&M Review:

- Co-Marshal American Gold Star Mothers (AGSM) - Terri Dunn-Campbell
    - Compiling a list of Gold Star families and the fallen service members they represent.
    - Two tables are planned for Gold Star Mothers and one guest each. The goal is 30 seats, with 19 secured.
    - A consolidated attendee list was requested to streamline ticket distribution. Dan Doyle will coordinate allocations and manage overflow.
    - Dr. Patricia Lutz was confirmed as chaplain.
- Kevin Bowser reported that 250 students from Star of the Sea Catholic Church, along with two banner carriers, will each carry a sign bearing a veteran's name. He requested 8–10 more carriers for signs naming fallen heroes.
- Bob Freitag provided the following update:
    - Chaplains and ceremony flow:
        - Four prayers total: invocation and benediction at the 1100 ceremony; invocation and food blessing at the luncheon.
    - Ceremony flow:
        - Welcome, invocation, Armed Forces Medley, flyover, Eternal Father, wreath laying by grand marshal/co-marshal, taps, benediction.
    - Event program 90% complete; draft sections to be sent to relevant parties; full roster to verify organization names due to past mislabeling.
    - Awaiting VA proclamation posters, local production may continue if delays persist; about 1,000 small flags are expected.
- Dan Doyle confirmed two golf carts secured at no cost; providers will be acknowledged in the program.
- Mayor proclamation signings completed; photos available at HRCVO website.
- Roger Durity gave an update on the Parade Application status.
    - 66 in total (65 Organizations, 1 High Schools).
    - Bayside High School cancelled their application.

- Parade applications are being accepted and are available online.
- Fleet Forces Band confirmed for the 1100 memorial service only; not in parade.
- Consideration providing lunches for band members.
- Outreaching to other VIPs and dignitaries.
- Car club coordination is in progress to provide vehicles for VIPs.

Old/Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- Purchase of 75 HRCVO coins at $6 each; budget up to $450. Motion Rich Segarra 2nd Kevin Bowser. Approved
- Printing 100 full color 11x17 event posters Motion: Alice Cooper, 2nd John Cooper. Approved
- 250 Kids' signs approved for production with names added: earlier $1,000 quote. Motion: Rick Seggara 2nd Terri Dunn-Campbell. Approved
- Virgil Hart of MCV will lend the "America 250" banner, which may be displayed at the review stand. A two-foot flag will be used, ending the need to purchase a new one.
- Donation of $200 to support Wreaths Across America at Princess Anne Memorial Park Cemetery. Motion: Virgil Hart 2nd Kevin Bowser Approved with two oppositions.
- The annual donation-basket raffle will continue. Previous proceeds totaled approximately $850–$900, and 7–9 baskets valued at $50–$150.
    - Proposed ticket prices are $5 each, three for $10, or eight for $20.
    - The beneficiary will be selected at the next meeting, and organizations were asked to donate baskets.

Organization Reports

- Virgil Hart of MCV reported that the Virginia Beach Memorial Fountain pump failed after Memorial Day. A replacement is expected by Friday, subject to delivery.
    - Plans include repainting the fountain and treating it to prevent algae growth.
    - The fountain will likely remain dry during restoration until after Veterans Day.
- Dave Huffman of Mission: POW/MIA reported on reciprocal Vietnam War recovery efforts:
    - The organization is collaborating with the Vietnamese Embassy and National Records to locate remains and return personal items.
    - It has investigated approximately 115 suspected remains. "Operation Heart" continues, with more than 100 items awaiting return, and has received funding for a second year.
    - HRCVO may be asked to provide travel support in the future.

The next meeting will be held on October 26th, 2026, at 7 PM

Benediction and Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Chaplain.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

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HRCVO

Financial Report
September 2026

Beginning Balance (9/1/2026)

Checking	$ 5,004.28
Savings	$ 3,033.84
CD	$ 10,890.15
Total	**$ 18,928.27**

Income

CD Interest	$29.17
Savings Account Interest	$0.07
10 Coins (Dan Doyle)	$ 60.00
Total Monthly Income	**$89.24**
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Expenses

JCVCC Donation (Mike Maliniak)(1233)	$ 150.00
Luncheon Installment (DoubleTree)(1234)	$ 1,000.00
Total Monthly Expenses	**$ 1,150.00**

Ending Balance (9/30/2026) **$ 17,867.51**

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer

Last Name	First Name	Organization
Antley	Mark	American Legion Post 280
Basso	Ron	American Legion Post 110
Bowser	Kevin	Fraternal Order of Eagles
Breuer	Scott	Fraternal Order of Eagles
Brink	Larry	Patriot Guard Riders
Cooper A	Alice	American Legion 2nd District
Cooper J	John	American Veterans Post 69
Cramer	Patrick	DAV Chapter 21 - Norflok
Doyle	Dan	Knights of Columbus Assembly 1162
Dunn-Campbell	Terri	American Gold Star Mothers, H. R. Chapter
Durity	Roger	American Veterans Post 69
Earnest	Frank	Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 1549, Norfolk County Greys
Freitag	Bob	Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce
Gunn	Mona	American Gold Star Mothers
Hart	Virgil	VB Mayors Committee for Veterans
Heckelman	Loren	HRCMOAA
Huffman, D	Dave	Mission POW-MIA
Huffman, J	Jeanie	Mission POW-MIA
Lutz	Patty	American Gold Star Mothers
Makowski	Mark	Marine Corps League
Murdoch	Jon	Tidewater Council Scouting America
O'Donnell	Ron	US Submarine Veterans of Hampton Roads
Paule	Jesus	Filipino-American Veterans of H. R.
Randall	Robert	HRCVO
Segarra	Rich	Operation Vets with Nets
Shirley	Bob	Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 1549
Sticklen	Maggie	Gold Star Mothers
Uhrin	John J	HRCMOAA / VVA969

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Agenda

September 28, 2026

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call of Officers and Directors
5. President's Report
6. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
   - National POW/MIA Recognition Day
   - Wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery
   - Flame of Hope Wreath Laying Ceremony
   - USAA Luncheon sponsorship
   - 2026 Parade patches = $6 each
   - Honor and Remember Gala = December 6th
   - Republican Women's Meeting Speaker Request
   - Wreaths Across America = December 17th
7. Treasurer's Report:
   - Bills and Invoices Paid/Pending/Forthcoming
   - Financial Statement Review
   - Luncheon Tickets Available for Purchase = $30 each
   - HCRVO Challenge Coins Available for Purchase = $6 each
8. POA&M Review
   - Co-Sponsor Status Update
   - Parade Application Status Update
   - Band approved to participate
   - Golf carts = two complimentary carts from Moke America
   - Mayor proclamation signing ceremonies
9. Old/Unfinished Business
10. New Business
11. Organizational Reports
12. Good of the Order
    - Next meeting date = October 26, 2026 at 7 PM
    - Discussion items from the floor
13. Benediction/Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Chaplain
    - Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
14. Adjourn